

The Bulletin.

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WASHINGTON.

The New Grand Scheme—A Radical Caucus.

THE MOITY SYSTEM—THE NEW SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, ETC., ETC.

[Special Correspondence of BUREAU.]

WASHINGTON D. C. June 8, 1874.

As straws show how the wind blows so does the utterance of the Grant organ here—"The Republican"—indicate how the president thinks. The recent earnest advocacy, by that journal, of Cuban recognition would seem to the uninitiated to be an honest sympathy with the struggling Cubans, but such is not the case; it is merely a part of the scheme that looks to the perpetration of radical reform and a third term for General Grant. This is to be done by holding out to the American people the glittering prize of new states—south of us—that are to be annexed—thus our cupidry is to be appealed to under the cry of "Manifest destiny"—as shouted by Buchanan, Mason and Soule in ante-bellum days. The first step in this scheme is the recognition of Cuba—the catchword being "free Cuba, and San Domingo—the president's dream will follow in order. The Mexican greaser will come in as an American citizen, while Chinese coolies and freed negroes will go to swell the already too large number of ignorant and debased voters in our body politics. This is the plan of a desperate band of trickster politicians who would pay any price for power, and Senator Carpenter in the senate, and Judge Poland in the House are the fagmen of the scheme. To suppose that either of these politicians would be the tools of designing men would be to insult their intelligence. However much we may sympathize individually with the Cubans we cannot permit the president to rush us into a war or into damages under the Washington treaty, by interfering in the affairs of Spain, simply that his insatiable ambition may be gratified. Even republicans who formerly desired the recognition of Cuba now draw back from the wild game of these gambler politicians who would risk the ruin of the country that they might win power.

RADICAL CAUCUS.

The radical senators and representatives met in caucus last evening in the hall of the house. Zaccariah—sur-named Chandler, stated that the meeting was called to hear the reading of the report of the executive committee. The report was read and Zaccariah told what he had done in the work and asked that his resignation might be accepted. He sees the general breaking up that is at hand, and takes himself off in good time. The very respectable muf—Hannibal Hamlin, who don't see beyond his nose, accepted the vacancy. "Pig Iron" Kelley wanted the committee disbanded because congress differed with the president on the finances, but it was continued—in the hope that it might yet be of some service. Lynch, negro, howled for the passage of the civil rights bill. As the financial question was about being entered on the already panic stricken and scared radicals grew fearfully nervous, and an adjournment was affected before the dragon of discord was let loose. A general feeling of relief was pictured on the countenance of each as he emerged from the hall at the thought that the danger has been tied over for a few days at least.

ADJOURNMENT.

It is generally conceded now that congress will not be able to adjourn on the 22nd inst. as agreed upon. The session will last in all probability until the end of June even with the necessary business being dispatched with the utmost diligence.

THE MOITY SYSTEM.

The senate was engaged for a considerable time yesterday on the moiety bill. The finance committee made a

very strong effort to restore the clause providing for the seizure of books and papers, which the house had struck out of the bill as reported from the ways and means committee. The will of congress has now been pretty decidedly expressed, and if there is time to pass the bill the seizure of private books and papers will be done away with entirely, except as provided in the law of 1789. It is to be hoped that the desires of the "pimps," as Senator Cameron called the moiety informers, will not be heeded and this much needed measure staved off till next session.

NOT YET AGREED.

The conference committee on the currency bill have not yet agreed on any compromise. They will meet again to-day, and if they then fail to agree will so report to their respective houses. The president has given mortal offence to the inflationists, and their backs are up, but can the radicals go back to the people without some action on this question? I don't think it.

FRANKING.

It is thought from the moves made recently that the revival of the franking privilege will be effected before the end of the free distribution of public documents is the first step. Well, this congress began business by repealing the back pay, and it would be in keeping with its inconsistency ever since by voting to revive the franking privilege.

THE NEW SECRETARY.

Secretary Bristow has undertaken the work of Hercules, and if he don't wear away his new broom before he cleanses the treasury department I will lose my guess. He has begun well, and has made many an idler, male and female, walk Spanish already. The "dead beats"—those who drew pay and did not work at all—numbered hundreds, and off went their heads. Query: Can Bristow withstand congressional impertinence? If so he will keep up the reform; if not the old drones will, one by one, get back again and the machine will again run in the old rut.

A NEW COMMISSION.

The secretary of the interior proposes asking that a new Indian commission be appointed in place of the one just resigned. The new one is to be composed entirely of Friends. If they squabble as did the last we had better have none of it.

McCOOK'S CASE.

The senate committee on territories, by a majority vote, decided to report favorably on the nomination of Gen. Ed. McCook to be governor of Colorado. The committee had just concluded an examination of the charges recently

SAWYER'S SUCCESSOR.

It is rumored that Gabriel C. Wharton, an intimate personal friend of Secretary Bristow, has been tendered the assistant secretaryship of the treasury by the president. Exit Sawyer.

PENSIONS.

The newly passed pension bill increases the pensions of 691 totally disabled pensioners from \$31 25 to \$50 per month, and the pensions of all one-armed soldiers to the same rate as that paid to one-legged soldiers.

SOUTHERN CLAIMS.

The senate committee on claims will only report a general bill to carry out the awards made by the southern claims commission, amounting to \$680,000.

A NEW STATE.

The house yesterday by a vote of 170 yeas to 65 nays passed the bill admitting the territory of Colorado as a state of the union. Another rotten borough—with two senators to balance those from New York, Ohio or Georgia.

SUMNER AND CHASE.

[From the Chicago Tribune, June 12.] Mr. J. W. Schuckers, in a recent letter to the New York Tribune, puts a pretty effectual quietus on the story that President Lincoln, immediately after the death of Chief Justice Taney, offered the vacant place to Senator Sumner. The report that he did so originated, we believe, with Mr. Caleb Lyon. He is credited, at least, with the authorship of this paragraph: "Book after Chief Justice Taney's death he (Sumner) showed me a card from the president, upon which was written: 'The Hon. Charles Sumner: The vacant chief justiceship is placed at your disposal.'"

"He then said: 'There was a time when this office would have been the realized dream of my youth, but now it must not, it cannot be. The breach between Mr. Chase and the president is growing wider and wider, and this will close it. No personal sympathy is too great, nor can anything tempt me to desert my post. The Republican party must remain intact until its mission is fulfilled. It is well known that only the great senator's persistence accomplished the appointment of Mr. Chase, after a tedious delay from October to December. Mr. Chase through life remained unconscious of Mr. Lincoln's offer and of Mr. Sumner's refusal.'"

If Mr. Lyon really wrote this paragraph himself, it is difficult to see how the facts can be otherwise. But it is probable that it passed through several minds before being put upon paper. In this case it deserves little credence. A story so farcically gross with the telling of Senator Sumner told a tale he wished he had never offered the chief justiceship, the story, by the time it reached G or H, would be that he had been offered it. Mr. Schuckers' account of the relations of Lincoln, Sumner and Chase seems more probable than Mr. Lyon's.

Mr. Schuckers visited Senator Sumner

on the 16th of last February. The latter then told him the following story: About the middle of May, 1864, word reached him that Chief Justice Taney could not live more than a few hours. It was then half-past ten in the evening. He went at once to the president's residence and told him what he had heard. "You have come," said Mr. Lincoln, "to speak of Mr. Chase." "Yes," "If I appoint Chase will he give up politics and the Presidency?" Sumner, in reply to this question, told Mr. Lincoln of a recent conversation with Chase, in which Chase had said that if he could have either the presidency or chief justiceship he would choose the latter. Lincoln expressed his satisfaction, and said he would speak to Chase on the matter next morning. Mr. Sumner then said to the president: "I will never do it for the president to have any communication with any one touching the appointment to this great place which the most malignant enemy could torture into a corrupt understanding. Mr. Lincoln acknowledged the force of the objection. He said he would not speak to Chase on the subject, but would certainly nominate him. The conversation then turned on his probable successor as secretary of the treasury.

Mr. Taney rallied and lived until Oct. 12, 1864. When he finally died, Sumner wrote three times to Lincoln, urging Mr. Chase's nomination. "I have a great deal to say to you," said he, "and got none." Mr. Schuckers told him of Robert Lincoln's saying, just before the nomination: "The relations existing between my father and Mr. Chase are those of armed neutrality," and suggested that the phrase might have originated with the president. The senator answered: "I don't think with Mr. Chase and the chief justiceship." Mr. Lincoln said he had never wavered in his intention to nominate Mr. Chase if a vacancy occurred during his presidency, from the night of our interview on the subject in the preceding May until he was finally made. If this is so, the place could not have been offered to the senator. So, if Sumner is correctly reported by Schuckers, he cannot be correctly reported by Lyon.

Several facts mentioned by Mr. Schuckers corroborate his version. It is not at all likely that a nomination to an office of such great importance should be offered in the very informal way which Mr. Lyon mentions, by a finger scribbled upon a card. Again, Mr. Sumner would certainly have made such a flattering offer public before his death. A man of ordinary pride—much more a man of considerable egotism—would have done this. The letters of Secretaries Fessenden and Stanton furnished additional proof. Fessenden wrote, Oct. 26, six days after Taney's death: "I think there can be no doubt about Mr. Chase's appointment, and again, 'No. 13'—I have no doubt Mr. Chase will be chief justice; I have neither seen nor heard anything to indicate a change in the president's intention." The day after Mr. Stanton wrote: "Your experience has taught you that the newspaper reports are all lies, invented by knaves for food and feed; this is especially true in respect of the chief justiceship; my belief is that the appointment will be offered to Mr. Chase, if it has not already been done." A fortnight later, the nomination was sent to the senate. It is difficult to see, in view of all these facts, how the incident for which Mr. Lyon's authority is given can be true.

CONVENTIONS AND ELECTIONS.

June 17—Illinois republican convention, in Springfield.
June 17—Indiana republican convention, in Indianapolis.
June 17—Vermont republican convention, in Burlington.
June 18—Maine republican convention, in Augusta.
June 23—Maine democratic convention, in Portland.
June 23—Lumbermen's International convention, in Williamsport, Pa.
June 24—Iowa Anti-Monopoly convention, in Des Moines.
June 25—Alabama colored men's convention, in Montgomery.
June 30—Illinois prohibition convention, in Bloomington.
June 30—Arkansas election for constitutional convention.
July 1—Iowa republican convention, in Des Moines.
July 14—Arkansas constitutional convention meets, if carried.
July 15—Indiana democratic convention, in Indianapolis.
July 15—Ohio democratic convention, in Columbus. (A meeting of the state committee is to be held to see if the call shall be withdrawn until after the election on the proposed new constitution.)
July 29—Alabama democratic convention, in Montgomery.
August 8—Election in Kentucky.
August 8—Kansas farmer's convention, in Topeka.
August 8—Election in North Carolina.
August 8—Michigan reform mass convention, in Lansing.
August 18—Special election in Ohio on the new constitution.
August 19—Pennsylvania Republican convention, in Harrisburg.
Aug. 19—Tennessee democratic convention, in Nashville.
Aug. 26—Pennsylvania democratic convention, in Pittsburgh.
Sept. 1—Election in Vermont.
Sept. 14—Election in Maine.
Oct. 13—Election in Ohio, if new constitution is rejected.
Oct. 13—Election in Indiana.
Oct. 13—Election in Iowa.
Oct. 13—Election in Nebraska.
Oct. 14—Election in Georgia.
Oct. 22—Election in West Virginia.
Nov. 2—Election in Louisiana.
Nov. 3—Election in Ohio, if new constitution was ratified (August 18).
Nov. 3—Election in Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Wisconsin.

NOTE.

All the above named states (thirty-two) elect representatives for the forty-fourth congress, besides state officers varying in each state. Rhode Island will elect members of congress in that state. The elections to the forty-fourth congress will be completed next year as follows: New Hampshire, in March, Connecticut, in April, California, in September, Mississippi, in November. The forty-fourth congress will, unless sooner convened, meet on the first Monday in December, 1875.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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